



STATE OF WASHINGTON

EASTERN WASHINGTON GROWTH MANAGEMENT HEARINGS BOARD

TO: ALL INTERESTED PARTIES AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

FROM: Joyce Mulliken, Administrative Chair – Eastern Washington Board

DATE: June 22, 2009

RE: **ADMINISTRATIVE CONSOLIDATION OF
THE GROWTH MANAGEMENT HEARINGS BOARDS**

During the 2009 session, the Washington State Legislature adopted a 2009-2011 Biennium Budget which reduced the Growth Management Hearings Boards' budget – Eastern Washington, Western Washington, and Central Puget Sound – by almost 16 percent, with budget notes specifically contemplating a consolidation of the Boards' current three offices into a single location. After numerous discussions held at the Joint Boards' Semi-Annual Meeting on April 30, 2009 and, at subsequent meetings on May 27, 2009 and June 9, 2009, the Boards have determined that to address these budget appropriations an administrative consolidation is necessary.

THEREFORE, effective July 1, 2009, the office of the Eastern Washington Growth Management Hearings Board will start the process to relocate to Olympia.¹ Contact and mailing information for the Olympia location is as follows:

Eastern Washington Growth Management Hearings Board
Office of the Growth Management Hearings Board
319 - 7th Avenue S.E.
Olympia, WA 98501
P.O. Box 40953
Olympia, WA 98504-0953
360-586-0260
360-664-8975 Fax
e-mail: eastern@ew.gmhb.wa.gov
web site: www.gmhb.wa.gov

Starting on July 1, 2009, ALL Petitions for Reviews must be filed at the Olympia office as well as ALL documents related to those Petitions. For cases in which Petitions for Review have already been filed with the Eastern Board, documents may continue to be filed in the Eastern Board's current office located in Yakima until August 31, 2009. The Boards have adopted emergency rulemaking in order to facilitate this consolidation. Please review these rules at the Boards' website.

¹ The Central Puget Sound Growth Management Hearings Board will also relocate its office to Olympia starting July 1.

PLEASE NOTE, this consolidation is of the administrative functions only and does not modify the jurisdictional decision-making authority established by the Growth Management Act for the three Boards. The three Growth Management Hearings Boards remain separate and distinct boards. The Eastern Board retains jurisdiction and independent decision-making authority over petitions alleging a violation of the Growth Management Act for cities and counties planning under the Growth Management Act within Eastern Washington. The Western and Central Puget Sound Boards' jurisdiction remains the same as well.

If you have any questions in regards to the administrative consolidation of the Growth Management Hearings Boards, please contact Angie Andreas, Administrative Officer – Eastern Washington Board, at 509-574-6960 or AAndreas476@ew.gmhb.wa.gov or Julie Ainsworth-Taylor, Staff Attorney – Growth Management Hearings Boards, at 425-441-8250 or Juliet@cps.gmhb.wa.gov